

Subject: *American citizen, Mr. Will, architect by Prof. Lenin in Phil.*

Date : 28 Sept 1967

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3828
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

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1. On their trip to Europe Subject and his wife visited the Ukraine from 15 Aug to 7 Sept 1967. Following is their itinerary:

On 15 Aug 1967, at 07.25 they departed by train from BUDAPEST and at 17.00 hrs arrived at CHOP where they underwent customs and documents control. Late in the evening they arrived in Lvov and were accommodated at Inturist Hotel.

On 25 Aug they left by plane for SIMFEROPOL and from there by car to YALTA. While at YALTA they made a one-day trip to BAKHCHYSARAY. On 31 Aug they left YALTA for SIMFEROPOL and from SIMFEROPOL by plane for KIEV. In Kiev they were accommodated at Dnipro Hotel.

On 7 Sept 1967 they left by Aeroflot from KIEV for BUCAREST.

2. The customs control at CHOP was "a nasty one". They were told to show all the gifts and when it turned out they had too many of them they were told to pay tax. Thus Subjects had 20 kerchiefs and they were told to pay for 17, Rubel or \$7.- each since they were allowed to have only 3 with them. Similarly, it was with other items. Subject refused to pay and said that under the circumstances he would like to leave all the "taxable" goods with the Customs provided they would forward them to KIEV wherefrom they will be departing to Rumania. When customs officers heard that they would have to send all the stuff to Kiev they said they wanted "no bother" and told Subjects to take all the items with them.

Similarly it happened with books. Subject had quite a few English, German and French books on architecture, modern art, etc. Again, he was ready to leave the books with Customs provided they would send them to Kiev Airport where he could pick them up on the way out of the Soviet Union.

After that Subject was allowed to take all the books with him. He left them in the Ukraine, mostly with LOHVYN Hryhori in Kiev. ^{At CHOP} Only bag age was checked. On departure from Kiev there was no customs control at all.

3. Subject is employed with Planning Department of the City Hall in Philadelphia, Pa, is an architect by profession, in 1966 received Master's degree in town planning from Pratt Institute, and is deeply interested in Ukrainian church and other architecture. His main motive, besides visiting relatives in the Ukraine, was getting familiar with Ukrainian church architecture on the spot and for that purpose he also went to CHERNIHIV where there was a unique church, and to BAKHCHYSARAY. Referring to his background as an architect he also explained ~~xx~~ to customs why he had so many "architectural" books with him.

4. On the ~~lv~~ arrival in Istanbul, Turkey, Subject notified about the arrests of CHORNOVIL Vyacheslav and release of ~~three~~ three prisoners from Mordovia camp as told by SVITLYCHNY Ivan. CHORNOVIL was arrested on 3 Aug 1967 in Lvov.

Subject was debriefed on 28 Sept 1967 after his return from Europe.

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Following is the gist of debrief/ing:

1. On their way from CHOP to LV68 Subject observed that between VOLOVETS and LAVOCHNE the mountains were completely bare and deeply ruined by erosion. Nevertheless, Subject saw still about 10 or so RR transports with timber, passing by, or passed by.

2. Lvov impressed Subject as a crowded city. Streets are full of people all the time. In the morning and evening Ukrainian is prevailing. In the afternoon one hears a lot of Russian spoken mainly by well dressed ladies and gentlemen. Subject was told that most of those Russian speaking ladies are wives of Soviet Army officers.

3. Subject managed to get into VIRMENSKA CHURCH (Armenian Church)

in Lvov. There he met a painter by the name LININSKY, fnu, Ukrainian, aged 45; BATIH, fnu, another artist, and a former monk. All three were working on restoration of icons and other art-~~xxxxxxx~~ items. After Subject told LININSKY who he was the latter introduced him to many things in the Church, and also told him how to contact Halyna SEVRUK in Kiev who is his friend. (N.B. Subject was instructed to contact Ivan SVITLYCHNY through Halyna SEVRUK.) LININSKY mentioned SEVRUK'S name first and very warmly recommended her to Subject. He also told Subject that she will be able to contact him with LOHVYN Hryhori, and other interesting people in Kiev.

LININSKY gave his address: Lvov,

Bryukhovychi

wul. Frunze 7.

He suggested also that one could write to him ~~via~~ his aunt :

Lvov,

BRYUKHOVYCHY,

Frukhtova 5,

According to LININSKY there are about 12,000 icons, ~~xxxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~, many sculptures, and other very valuable art-items. There are 5 ~~full~~ complete iconostases, one of them from Skyt Maniavsky; and approx. 20 - 30 holy gates. In brief, this is one of the richest museums or rather stores of church-art in the Ukraine at present. The Copula in the Church is leaking, and the art-items are neglected. LININSKY said that he and his friends are simply unable to do all by themselves and the authorities show little interest in preserving those treasures. Virmens'ka church belongs officially to the "national fund" of the National Museum which exhibits 10 or so icons. LININSKY tried to exhibit there more icons but he was not allowed to do so under strict warning "against any attempts to sponsor religious propaganda".

3. LININSKY recommended to Subject KARAFFA-KORBUT Sophia

Lvov

Ternopil'ska wul.

Budynok Khudozhnyka

(Trolleybus # 6),

and GENTS - BARANETSKA Stefaniya
Lvov
Karla Marksa 31, kv.31
Tel. 55-809 ,

but neither was at home.

4. In Lvov Subject also met a former teacher, member of Teachers Trade Union in Lvov, by the name KUBAYEVYCH Vasyl

Lvov

Kharkivska 30, kv.3,

Ukrainian, aged 60, his wife is employed with Ethnographical Museum in Lvov. KUBAYEVYCH said he knew the father of Subject's wife with whom he had worked at one time.

5. LININSKY and Subject's relatives in Lvov (a cousin and grandma) confirmed that there were trials and demonstrations in 1966 in Lvov, and that "not all was over". They did not go, however, into details.

6. Subject was not allowed to visit DROHOBYCH where he wanted to see an old church.

7. The attitude of Inturist personnel in Lvov was very rude. One night Subjects met an old lady in front of the hotel who asked them whether they were ~~their~~ her grandchildren. It turned out she was their grandma indeed. For several days she kept asking the Inturist whether such and such people had arrived and the reply was they knew nothing about them. What happened was that Subject's name ^{starting with MR} was "transcribed" into "Kh" and the Inturist did not bother to realize that. When Subjects wanted to take her grandma into their room, the porter forbade it and shouted down "the old babushka". All the protests of Subject did not help.

8. In Lvov Subjects were told about First January Demonstration ~~xxxxxxxx~~ of 1967 in Lvov at which came to brawls with militia.

9. LININSKY and others told Subjects that there was a deliberate policy to destroy Ukrainian art memorials. It went already so far that old Ukrainian monuments in cemeteries in Lvov are being removed, Russians buried instead, and new Russian monuments erected, as a "proof" that even Lvov is a Russian city. Also in the city itself many buildings are deliberately being neglected in order to get them later on restored in a completely "Russian" style.

10. Subject visited in Lvov the Union of Artists of Ukraine at Mitskevich Ploshcha, Tel. 22052, chairman MYSKO, his deputy: DZYNDRA. Nothing interesting.

11. In Yalta Subjects stayed at OREANDA HOTEL. Not a single word in Ukrainian was heard. Once in the street a couple, probably tourists from Kiev or Lvov, asked for Ukrainian newspapers but there were none. In Bakhchysaray Museum Subjects noticed a gery strong cult of Peter I, and in such a chauvinistic spirit, that they could not believe they were in a communist country. In SIMFEROPOL, on the other hand, they saw more Ukrainian books than anywhere else. Subject saw 15 examplares of "Ukrainian Architecture" which he could not find anywhere else incl. Kiev and Lvov. Also lots of Ukrainian classics were on display, mainly Lesia Ukrainka, Shevchenko, Franko and others.

12. Through Halyna SEVRUK Subject got into contact with Ivan SVITLYCHNY and Ivan HONCHAR, and later on with others, like Mykhailyna KOTSIUBYNSKA, LOHVYN Hryhori, his son, Evhen SVERSTIUK, Nadia SVITLYCHNY: Georgi YAKUTOVYCH.

13. Subject met SVITLYCHNY in the street as arranged by SEVRUK. SVITLYCHNY indicated that he preferred the street to the bookshop "Siayvo". Subject told him that "Martha has brought evrything with her but her note-book and diary were photographed by customs". SVITLYCHNY received it very calmly and commented that "she actually had nothing" in ~~the~~ sense that it was nothing compromising.

On the whole SVITLYCHNY impressed Subject as a quiet , phlegmatic type , somewhat reserved, introvert, but friendly, ~~xxx~~ "radiating humane warmth". He seemed to accept anything and everything with a very strong dose of "stoicism" and showed a tremendous amount of selfcontrol. After he learned more about Subject , his trip aso, only then he talked more openly with him. Following is the gist of what Subject was told:

a/ For first 3 months SVITLYCHNY had a very severe regime in the prison. The ~~xxx~~ other 5 months he could read, write, and on the whole was "much better off." He had dozens and dozens of "high ~~xxx~~ level conversations with generals of the KGB". They all spoke very fine Ukrainian. Incidentally, even all the officers of the KGB Svilychny's wife was approaching in Kiev were at pains to speak ^{fine} ~~xxx~~ Ukrainian. After his release, the KGB continued to bother him. Even now from time to time he has talks with a general of KGB . They discuss politics, philosophy, all kind of stuff . The general speaks Ukrainian, and claims to be a Ukrainian. Of course, all that showing off of "Ukrainism" is a masquerade but "they probably realize what I realize too".

b/ During interrogations the KGB asked him quite often about Roxane (SMISKEVYCH). So, it's better for her not to go anywhere behind the iron curtain.

c/ In Sept 1967 the KGB brought MOROZ Valentin to Kiev for some additional investigation. In the meantime , on 3 Aug 1967 CHORNOVIL was arrested in Lvov for his writings against the trials and imprisonments. ~~Early xxxxxxxx~~ Lately 3 prisoners were released from Mordovia camps (Subject forgot ~~their~~ names) . One of the released was in correspondence with ~~xxxx~~ CHORNOVIL, and they arrested CHORNOVIL deliberately prior to the other's release.

d/ Subject was asked to convey to people abroad that they should not use any originals in their publications but after ~~re~~-typing destroy them.

e/ SVITLYCHNY explained to Subject their present "line" towards the regime which runs as follows:

Their group cannot approve of Drach's and Korotych's "policy" which aims at finding compromise with the regime, but on the contrary, has to abide by the principles it proclaims. Svitlychny and his colleagues put emphasis on human honesty, integrity, truthfulness, and genuine freedom as ~~the~~ opposite to dishonesty, falsehood, corruption, and servilism of others. And only by abiding by those ideals and being ready to suffer for them, their group ^{has} become and ~~will~~ ^{will} remain a focus of "attraction" for young Ukrainians. The last few years proved that such ^a line was able to mobilize wider and wider circles of young intelligentsia around the group, and SVITLYCHNY was very optimistic about the future in this regard.

Should they have compromised like Drach and Korotych had done, they would have not only betrayed the ideals but by justifying Drach's tactics they had had justified Dmyterkos and Skabas as well. In end result it meant a liquidation of Ukrainian politicum as such because an identification of it with Dmyterkos and Skabas would mean that there was no Ukrainian body politic at all. Moreover, under those circumstances, they would have had no chances whatsoever to mobilize Ukrainian young intelligentsia because there simply would be nothing to mobilize ~~it~~ ^{it} with, and nothing ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ that would serve as an attracting center.

Svitlychny felt very sorry for DRACH and said that he had much understanding for him personally but on the other hand, ~~not~~ for higher considerations, he had to disavow him. Moreover, that before his "switch" DRACH has already had the reputation of ^{one of the} a leader of the group. and ~~not~~ as ~~one~~ of the leaders he must not have done what he did. Incidentally, not DRACH but DZIUBA was ~~first~~ ^{first} "selected" for regime's purposes. "They" came first to DZIUBA Ivan with the suggestion he should go as member of Ukrainian Delegation to the General Assembly of the UN to New York. "They" only stipulated, "just on the rand", that for that he would have to write an article against the Ukrainian emigres. DZIUBA told them to close the door ~~for~~ ^{behind them} ~~on the other side~~, and DRACH could have done the same.

f/ SVITLYCHNY added a few ~~staxia~~ details to the Shevchenko Demonstrati of 22 May 1967. Nadia , his sister, was in the first row of demonstrators. The leader of demanstration was a medical doctor, and he was the last one whom they released at ~~22~~ 3 o'clock in the morning. According to Svitlychny it was the most massive demonstration Kiev ever saw. After militia had used water hoses and the leaders of demonstration were led away more and more people came from the streets, young, old, and even children. All went to CC CPU and demanded to release the arrested. In Svitlychny's opinion , the authorities would have kept the arrested in prison , had the demonstration been not so massive. Anyway, one way or another, a very important precedent has been established: for the first time the regime yielded to the people.

g/ SVITLYCHNY asked Subject to convey to a Mrs KASARABA in Chicago, IL that she should send now parcels for CHORNOVIL, Vyacheslav. KASARABA should be a relative of Chornovil's wife.

h/ According to SVITLYCHNY at Vydubysky Monastery in Kiev there are many books , among them those transferred from the National Library during and after the Arson of May 1964. He asked people abroad to raise this problem in the press by asking above^{all} why those books are there, and where and how if at all they have been catalogued.

Svitlychny sent Subject to the Monastery and Subject met there 5 or 6 young women who were working "putting books into order". He was told that soon the books will be "put aside" and the monastery was going to be open to ~~xxxxx~~ tourists.

Subject made a few pictures of the monastery and on this occasion got into conversation with one of the women working there. She explained to him that books are going to be "dispatched" soon but she did not know ~~wh~~ whereto.

Subject took also a picture of the woman and promised to send her the photograph. Her address: GONTAR L.I.

Kiev 14
wul. Vydubyskyi 1, korpus 7.

Subject himself saw bunches of old and new books piled up all over the place in a terrible mess.

i/ SVITLYCHNY asked not to praise anything good that appeared in the Ukraine because then the authorities as a rule withdraw it from bookshelves or market.

j/ SVITLYCHNY asked Subject about Prolog, Mr Lebed, Suchasnist etc. and what the young people abroad thought about this group. Later on he indicated that he knew about the group and Mr Lebed from some relatives of Mr Lebed.

14. The second time Subject met with SVITLYCHNY they were walking in Khreshchatyk together. At least 30 persons or so approached Svitylchny and shook hands with ^{him} ~~her~~. There was no doubt that they all considered it to be a matter of honor to shake hands with him. At least half of those who shook hands were either lately ^{sacked} ~~removed~~ from jobs or expected to be sacked soon. 95 % were docents, engineers, artists, teachers. One student asked Svitylchny why did he not come last night to speak to them. The whole group waited for him. It was Subject's impression that Svitylchny was definitely some sort of "people's tribune" in Kiev.

15. One day Subject and his wife met KOTSIUBYNSKA Mykhalyna with tears in her eyes who explained to them that just today a good friend of her was "unanimously" expelled from the Academy of Sciences for having attacked KORNIYCHUK. What hurt Kotsiubynska most was the fact that not a single member of the Academy's Department dared ~~to~~ vote against expulsion and "they were Ukrainians". Kotsiubynska added that she might be sacked from her job any time, too.

16. SVITLYCHNY Ivan brought one day Subject's wife to STESHENKO Irena who had known personally Hirniak Yosip of New York. STESHENKO has a small private museum. She showed Subject's wife an article or rather a letter which she was going to send to authorities demanding to 'rehabilitate' Hirniak as a collaborator of famous Kurbas'.

17. Drach Ivan ~~xxx~~ had invited Subjects for a dinner to Dynamo-Restaurant and was very upset when they could not find any vacant table. Finally they settled down in a corner and Drach was very outspoken about the present situation in the Ukraine. He told them bluntly that there was no need for them to pretend that they also ^{saw} some good things because "Russification is in full force and no one should have any illusions about it". But he thought that his "policy" of compromise with authorities was right because it was realistic. Only by co-operating with the regime and fooling "those idiots up there" it will be possible to do something really good for Ukrainian cause. As an example he mentioned Spoleto where he was the only representative of Ukraine and read a long paper about Ukrainian literature. In his opinion, this single case was worth his "compromising".

18. Subject stood one day for 20 minutes in front of the building of the Supreme Soviet of Ukr SSR and discovered that not a single ^{pair} ~~person~~ leaving or getting into building spoke Ukrainian. There passed by about 30 people ~~xxxxxxxx~~ and all of them spoke Russian.

19. Subject met also Evhen SVERSTIUK. He was even more outspoken against Drach and Korotych than Svitlychny, and particularly against Drach. "Don't you realize - Sverstiuk said - Drach was one of the leaders and he could not have done what he did under any circumstances!". "He broke down and leaders cannot allow themselves such a luxury". Sverstiuk also stressed that Russification continued. He mentioned new searches at various people, sacking from jobs, and continuation of persecutions. He was almost sure that pretty soon he will be also sacked from his job but he did not care.

20. Subject was told that there were two main ~~xxxx~~ "devices" of Russification in West Ukraine, namely, sending of Russian element into industrial areas, and where there is no industry centers, constructing of military bases and their saturation with (Russian dependents of /officers. As a rule, those dependents pretty soon "press out" local elements in such positions as teachers, secretaries, librarians, ~~xxxxxxxx~~ managers of local "buildings of culture" etc.

21. Subject and his wife met with LOHVYN Hryhori and his son and also H.YAKUTOVYCH. (He later presented Subject with 2 of his reprints.) LOHVYN is working now on his PhD thesis about Ukrainian art before ~~XXXXXX~~ Renaissance. He will have to present ^{it} in Moscow because Kiev ~~XXXX~~ has no qualified institution for this field. LOHVYN ~~is~~ ^{is} primarily interested in preserving and developing Ukrainian art. He gave Subject two of his books which he had published in Moscow, ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ both about Ukrainian art in the past. In one of them he even mentioned Mazepa's coat of arms. As LOHVYN explained it such things he could only publish in Moscow but never in Kiev. LOHVYN gave Subject a thick bunch of various photographs of Ukrainian artistic memorials and asked to store them abroad. He asked Subject to get him some material on Kholmska God's Mother and its photograph, and the same about Pochyivska God's Mother. LOHVYN knew that about Kholmska God's Mother Subject could get necessary information from Bishop Ohayenko.

22. YAKUTOVYCH H. has a wonderful atelier, roomy, well equip~~ed~~, modern. (At the same time SEVRUK Halyna has a small unheated room .) He indicated to Subject that he was quite restricted in his work despite all that equipment and "good honorars". "When I start sketching it all looks very abstract and modern but then I have to put more and more 'realistic' features into it". In his opinion, he was not "marching" but "crawling" in his creations. "But what can you do?"

23. In Kiev Subject ^{had} a long talk with one of his cousins. He is a lecturer, ^{in early 30's} ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~, has his own car, well-to-do. The cousin was very much against the underground struggle after WW II because in his opinion the UPA and OUN caused an unnecessary bleeding down ~~of~~ Ukrainian intelligenstia. What is needed now is Ukrainian technical intelligentsia and on it all the efforts should be concentrated. Ukrainians have so far enough writers, poets, and other literati. "What we need are engineers, technicians, inventors". " I mean they have to be real Ukrainians and have to speak Ukrainian!" His prognoses in this aspect are quite optimistic and he is inclined to ^{pay} ~~give~~ less attention to "literati and humanisticists" ~~for sake of the cause~~ of "technological people!"

Along same line, he "criticized" emigration for concentrating on poetry and publicistics only, and suggested that simultaneously also some technical books and magazines should be published. The latter would "provoke" the "proper people" in the Ukraine to publish technical books in ~~Ukrainian~~ Ukrainian, too, and this would tremendously help people like Subject's cousin, in their efforts to "grow Ukrainian technical intelligentsia".

24. Subjects met also with LEVISHCHENKO Mykhailo (on recommendation from Shumeyko). Levishchenko received them very warmly sitting behind a desk full of Ukrainian books. (Next time when they visited him unexpectedly, there were no Ukrainian books left...)

Levishchenko knew that Subject's wife was active in Plast and asked her in quite a detail about Plast's structure. Finally she had enough of his questions and asked him why he was so much interested in Plast. After second visit he gave them the permit to go to Chernihov by Inturist's car. Together with Subject went also LOHVYN Hryhori. They stayed only for a few hours in Chernihiv. The trip to Chernihov costs Rubel 30.--.

25. When Subject told SEVRUK Halyna about Levishchenko, the former explained to her that he was quite known in Kiev. One or two years ago he ordered some ceramic figures "with Ukrainian motives" for his Association, from the firm in which Halyna was employed. When ordering he was speaking fine Ukrainian, but some^{time} later on he enquired about something and then he did not use a single Ukrainian word. "In short he spoke then like a real nachalnik".

26. LOHVYN's telephone number (Office) : 59-6801, Ext. 77

27. There is ^agreat demand at present in the Ukraine for shoes and sweaters (pullovers)/

28. In K⁺ev the Church of St. Cyril at Podol has been opened for tourists.

29. In a discussion between SVIETLYCHNY Ivan~~x~~ and LOHVYN Hryhori the former was of the opinion that after October Revolution ~~Celebrations~~ a new wave of persecution of everything Ukrainian might start again. LOHVYN expressed the view that ~~it~~ as far as art and culture ~~were~~ concerned this was not necessarily so because actually at present, because of October Annoversary the "ideological control" was quite strict and it might somewhat ease after the celebrations.

30. Subject went with his cousin to Kanev by Raketa without arranging his trip through Inturist~~x~~ and paid only Rubel 3.- . The same trip through Inturist costs Rubel 7.-.

31. Subject discovered that numbers (& extentions) stated on telephones in hotel rooms are not always right. It is better therefore to ckeck them first before giving them ^{to} anybody from outside.